

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-04 OES-06 SMI-01 PA-02  
PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /072 W  
----- 093068 /53

R 221342Z DEC 76  
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8570  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 1768

PARIS FOR UNESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: UNESCO, IS  
SUBJ: JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS/THE CITY OF DAVID

1. WE WERE RECENTLY TOLD BY PROF. YOSEF AVIRAM, HEAD OF THE ISRAEL EXPLORATION SOCIETY, THAT ARCHEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS WOULD SOON BEGIN IN THE OPHEL (CITY OF DAVID) SOUTH OF THE TEMPLE MOUNT. THE JERUSALEM POST DEC. 21 CARRIED ARTICLE TO THIS EFFECT STATING ACTIVITIES WOULD BE COORDINATED BY NEW COMMITTEE HEADED BY PROF. YIGEL YADIN.

2. PROJECT REPORTEDLY WILL COVER FIVE YEARS AND IS EXPECTED TO GET UNDERWAY IN ABOUT A YEAR. EXPEDITION LEADER NOT YET CHOSEN AND POST STORY SPECULATES THERE MAY BE A NUMBER OF TEAMS.

3. PROF. AVIRAM STATED THAT NO HOUSES WOULD BE DEMOLISHED AND THAT DIGGING WOULD BE CONFINED TO OPEN SPACES. ARTICLE STATES ONE PART OF THE  
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OPHEL HAD BEEN PURCHASED BY BARON EDMUN DE ROTHSCHILD FOR EXCAVATIONS BY FRENCH ARCHAEOLOGIST WEILL IN 1913-1914. THE POST STORY POINTS OUT THERE HAVE BEEN NINE DIGS ON THE OPHEL SINCE CHARLES WARREN CONDUCTED THE FIRST IN 1867. THE MOST EXTENSIVE PREVIOUS EXCAVATION WAS CARRIED OUT BY DAME KATHLEEN KENYON BETWEEN

1961-67.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARCHEOLOGY, CULTURAL PROPERTY, EXCAVATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976JERUSA01768  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760469-0992  
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**Line Count:** 63  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** vogelfj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS/THE CITY OF DAVID  
**TAGS:** SCUL, IS, UNESCO  
**To:** STATE  
TEL AVIV  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006